

THE HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Jockey Club was held at the City Hall on last Monday afternoon. There were present:—Messrs. W. H. Forbes (Chairman), E. L. Woodin, J. Grant, E. H. Gore-Booth, M. Grote, E. M. Rutter, G. S. Coxon, T. J. Rose, A. Karberg, W. Gossman, A. G. Morris, J. Machado, J. Lewis, H. Honniss, D. R. Sassoon, H. Hohnke, S. R. Lammer, L. Mendel, G. H. Potts, C. Hurst, W. Armstrong, H. W. Dick, E. Robinson, J. Eschell, I. Rogge, H. T. S. Green, J. M. Forster, W. Crickshank, A. W. Mallard, S. I. Bell-Irving, W. Slaght, W. von Will, S. I. Danby, R. L. Vail, A. O. D. Goudin, R. K. Leigh, O. Wegener, &c.

The Chairman proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Goudin seconded, and the motion was carried.

A ballot was then taken for the election of stewards for the ensuing season, with the result that the following gentlemen were elected:—Hon. P. R. V. Hon. J. J. Kewick, Hon. C. P. Chater, Messrs. G. S. Coxon, W. H. Forbes, J. Grant, R. M. Gray, M. Grote, and H. Hohnke. Mr. Mallard said he had a motion to bring forward. It had been suggested to him that an alteration should be made in by-law No. 6. At present it read "All horses and ponies must be the bona fide property of those who enter them and no one shall be allowed to ride unless a member of the Hongkong Jockey Club." He suggested that it be amended to read "No one shall be allowed to ride except members of the Hongkong Jockey Club, officers of the Army and Navy, and visitors approved by the stewards."

Mr. Danby seconded, and it was agreed to unanimously.

A vote of thanks having been passed to the Chairman and the Clerk of the Course the meeting closed.

In submitting the accounts for the past year the Stewards are pleased to be able to show that the extraordinary expenditure caused by the floods has been already wiped out, and that a fair amount has been added to the account.

The Course is in fair condition, though badly cut up in places by roads formed while filling the pond; these are now being reduced to two, which will be kept in proper order by the contractor.

With regard to the erection of a new Grand Stand, the writer is still in abeyance, owing to Government's proposal to extend and change the direction of Race-course, plans for which have not yet been decided on finally. If this new scheme is carried out, the Grand Stand enclosure will receive a very necessary and welcome enlargement.

E. H. GORE-BOOTH,
Clerk of the Course.

Hongkong, October 24th, 1890.

THE HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB IN ACCOUNT

WITH THE HON. TREASURER.

Dr. Oct. 1889, to Oct. 1890.

To Upkeep of Race Course:—

Wages, colic hire, &c. \$860.25

Repairs to Stands, erection of mounds, renewing rails, &c. 1,266.77

Drain-pipes, &c. 831.60

J. Kennedy, pony hire, manure, &c. 274.00

One Fairbanks' Scale. 42.75

\$2,615.37

To Expenses of Meeting:—

Advertisements, Printing, &c. \$515.63

Attendance at Race Meeting, Shroffs, Clerk, &c. 105.20

Gratuity to Police. 100.00

Gratuity to Police. 100.00

Att. for Sundries. 65.35

Stewards' Tiffins, Refreshments to Band and Police. 292.76

1,179.94

To Coffee and Refreshment Account, and Hire of Rooms:—

Hongkong Hotel Bills. 395.13

City Hall. 25.00

421.13

To Stakes and Prizes. 5,362.00

Sundries:—

Annual Stewards' Dinner. 117.33

Gratuity to Servants at New Year. 16.00

Postage. 2.17

Hire of gun during training. 6.30

Stewards' badges, bouquet holder, &c. 28.50

Over-paid Entrance Fees returned. 190.00

Crown Rent. 1.00

Rates and Taxes. 117.00

478.29

Balance. 8,846.37

\$18,903.10

By Balance per last Account. \$1,881.31

Entrance Fees and Subscriptions. 3,008.00

Entries and Nominations. 7,675.00

Sale of Tickets, Commission, &c. 5,638.15

Subscription to Coffee. 350.00

Interest on Current Account to 30th September. 140.74

Interest on Fixed Deposit for \$4,000. 200.00

\$18,903.10

Fixed Deposit Chartered Mercantile Bank. \$4,000.00

E. & O. E.

Hongkong, 21st October, 1890.

E. W. RUTTER,
Hon. Treasurer.

Examined and found correct.

A. W. MAITLAND.

WRECK OF A YACHT IN THE CAROLINES.

On Monday a representative of the *Telegraph* interviewed Capt. Dewar, late of the 15th Hussars, now of Vogrie, Midlothian, who had arrived that morning by the *Nansing* from Manila, after losing his yacht in the Caroline Archipelago; but pressure on our space prevented the publication of the particulars he gave until now. He said that he left England in July 1887, with Mrs. Dewar, in the sailing yacht *Nansing*, a 17-ton well-known yachting vessel. After visiting Madeira and the Azores she proceeded to South America through the English Channel, being the first sailing vessel that had ever ventured to do so. From South America she proceeded to the Marquesas, where Robert Louis Stevenson, the novelist, was touring. From there she went to Tahiti, Samoa, the Friendly Islands, and Fiji, whence they shaped a course to Kamschatka, afterwards visiting the Marshall Group, New Caledonia, Santa Cruz, Esquimaux, the Marianas, the Bonin Islands, and Kobe. There the yacht laid up for nine months, whilst Captain and Mrs. Dewar went to England. On their return in May this year some ten Swedish vessels were shipped to augment the crew, and the

yacht left for the Carolines. Whilst on her way to Ponape, to land the whaling officer, Mr. J. Carrington, who desired to leave, Ponape was sighted, on the 28th July, and at 1.10 a.m. on the morning of the 29th the ship suddenly struck on a reef about 11 miles from the shore of the island, marked fairly accurately on the chart. She struck round right ahead, and as the current, tide, and wind set shorewards, in about twenty minutes she was hard and fast. Boats were lowered, and Capt. Carrington, taking most of the crew, proceeded to the settlement, some 16 miles away, for help. Capt. Dewar and the mate remaining on the vessel. Next day some Spanish boats came up, and a few things were got out, but the boats went away at dark, as the Spanish authorities—who were at that time making reprisals on the natives for the massacre of some soldiers feared that it would be unsafe to remain over night. For three days attempts were made to get the yacht off, but as each succeeding tide drove her higher and dryer—the efforts were unsuccessful. Each night the natives plundered the vessel in crowds, destroying what they could not remove, cutting the sails and tearing down the bulk-heads and fittings, but offering no violence to the Europeans, although on the second night they had to be shelled from one of the Spanish government boats before the latter ventured near. The chief loss sustained was the very large collection of curiosities and weapons which were nearly all taken. The yacht herself was insured for £5,000. For the next six weeks Capt. and Mrs. Dewar and the crew lived principally on the Spanish transport *Manila*, which was in Ponape at the time, having taken a body of troops to the spot to coerce the rebellious natives into submission. The party left for Manila in September, in another transport, the *Antonio Mulas*. The *Comarcia* says of Mrs. Dewar that during the voyage, notwithstanding the inevitable inconvenience, she never ceased to attend with great solicitude on the poor wounded soldiers who were returning to Manila. Capt. Dewar speaks highly of his treatment on the transport, whilst on the other hand the crew wrote to the *Daily Press* yesterday morning inveighing strongly against it. A Marine Court of Inquiry will probably be held into the wreck in a few days.

Capt. Carrington, who joined the yacht as navigating officer at San Francisco, says that the chief officer was on watch when she struck, and that the reef was much further from the land than it was marked on the Admiralty chart, and even the position of the island was incorrect. The vessel was only going about three knots at the time, but she soon ploughed her way up the reef, aided by the swell. He complains that the sailing was so badly conducted that he was left to be plundered of nearly everything, and says that the men shipped at Kobe are left destitute here, having sunk their advance in provisions, which were lost. Capt. Dewar, on the other hand, refers the men to their Consul. The vessel had sailed 42,784 miles when she was lost, her average daily run being just over 104 miles.

KIUKIANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

October 17th, 1890.

For weeks past there has gone up from all the country side a cry for rain; but day has succeeded day and the only answer to the cry is a cloudless sky. High winds have blown, but the sky becomes overcast, the mountains being entirely concealed in the clouds; surely the rain will come now; but no! on the third day the old order of things is resumed. The officials issued proclamations to the effect that no animal was to be slaughtered, no fish caught, and no eggs eaten, so that heaven might be propitiated. Suddenly all these articles of daily food disappeared from the streets and markets. However much the officials believed in these remedies the people evidently had little faith in them. All over the country pigs, chickens and ducks were killed as usual and secretly carried into the streets for sale. In walking along the street one might sometimes see an excited crowd gathered together scrambling pell-mell over one another, and eagerly bent on getting or seeing something. On drawing nearer it soon appeared that some countryman had pork for sale, hence all the commotion. The Buddha's were invoked, worship and offerings were kept up at a lively rate. One might see a priest busily engaged in burning paper having on them the two characters for God, hoping that the smoke might be a sweet smell in the nostrils of *Yen*. In another temple it was reported that a priest was under a vow to lie on the cold earth and eat no food till rain came. Surely all this would bring rain but no, still the clouds became drier and drier for days and weeks. To-day the prevailing high east winds have suddenly dropped and a N.W. wind set in bringing clouds and a little rain and with the rain quite a cool temperature. The first approaches of winter are upon us, white suits have disappeared, windows are closed, people are talking of coal and fires: the seasons give variety—after the heat we welcome the cold, and after the winter we shall welcome the heat again.

St. Paul's Church, under the control of the Methodist Episcopal Mission, is again open to public worship, having been closed since the Chinese New Year for repairs. The floods of last year so damaged the building that it was necessary to tear a large part of it down and rebuild.

—N. C. Daily News.

NORTH BORNEO NOTES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Sandakan, 18th October, 1890.

The reports I hear from nearly every estate in the district are extremely gratifying. The greater part of the crops are already housed, and will be finished by the time you get this, whilst preparations for next year are well advanced, the weather being very propitious.

We are following your lead in the matter of reclamation. The prevalence of sickness, owing to the smell from the mud when the tide ebbs, has caused the lot-holders to combine, and we expect that within six months the Government will have transformed the town from its present swampy state into a stretch of *terra firma*. The cost is estimated at \$60,000 to \$70,000.

Our Governor, Mr. C. V. Creagh, is expected to leave here for your Colony by the *Mannan* next trip. He is recovering from his broken collar-bone very satisfactorily.

Mr. Schneider, the manager of the Tobacco Company of British North Borneo, is in trouble and awaiting his trial on a charge of ill-using coolies. It is alleged by the laborers that whilst in a state of well, exaltation, he brandished them on the back with a cane, Mr. L. B. Beaufort is to be stamped XXVII. Mr. L. B. Beaufort is under orders to go to Darvel Bay and hold an inquiry into the matter.

Bishop Hose has been visiting this portion of his diocese, and is going on to Sarawak before returning to Singapore.

The greater portion of the last batch of coolies brought over by the *Mannan*—some 300 altogether—were despatched to Kudat, where they readily found employment.

The arrangements that I hear the Hongkong agents of the East Borneo, Sengul Koyah, and

Lamag Planting Companies are making, to hand those concerns over to a London company, have been considerably discussed here. The general opinion is that the London investors will make a highly advantageous bargain, as present prospects indicate that the proposed preferential creditors will make a big haul. I hope that the rumored intention of some of the Hongkong capitalists to bid for the estates will be carried into effect, for the returns are bound to be big, and that at no far distant date.

KOREA.

Seoul, 29th September, 1890.

H.I.G.M.'s gunboat *Mits* has been at Chemulpo, and Captain Adler, Lieutenant Ritter von Mann Tschler, and Dr. Spierling, were recently the guests of Consul Krien for several days. Owing to the reported discovery of a conspiracy against his life, His Majesty, it is said, will not follow the remains of the late Queen-Dowager to the grave, but will take leave of them inside the East Gate, and then return rapidly to the castle.

American troops have once more been summoned to the Capital, sixty men from the *Monocacy* having come up from Chemulpo to enable the heroic monarch to survive the burial of the Queen-Dowager. Obviously the country is ready for independence!

[A long and interesting account of the funeral ceremony of the Queen-Dowager, on October 12th, has reached us, but unfortunately too late for present issue. There were 20,000 processions, including troops, and some 200,000 spectators.]—*Chinese Times*.

Banks.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL £2,000,000.

PAID-UP CAPITAL £500,000.

LONDON:

Head Office: 40, Threadneedle Street.

West End Office: 25, Cockspur Street.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND THE COLONIES.

THE BANK RECEIVES MONEY ON DEPOSIT, Buys and Sells BILLS OF EXCHANGE, ISSUES LETTERS OF CREDIT, FORWARDS BILLS FOR COLLECTION, and Transacts Banking and Agency Business generally, on terms to be had on application.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS: Fixed for 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum.

ON CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS 1 per Cent. per Annum on the Daily Balance.

E. W. RUTTER, Manager.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$8,168,062.50

RESERVE FUND 5,482,127.00

RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS 8,168,062.50

COURT OF DIRECTORS: CHAIRMAN—H. L. DALRYMPLE, Esq.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN—J. S. MOSES, Esq.

T. E. DAVIES, Esq. S. C. MICHAKLES, Esq.

W. H. FORBES, Esq. L. POSENER, Esq.

H. HOPKINS, Esq. D. R. SASSOON, Esq.

Hon. J. J. KESWICK.

CHIEF MANAGER: HONGKONG—T. JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER: SHANGHAI—JOHN WALTER, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.

ON CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNT at the rate of 2 per cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS: For 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum.

For 6 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum.

For 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum.

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

CREDITS granted on approved Securities, and every description of BANKING and EXCHANGE business transacted.

DRAFTS granted on London, and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 15th September, 1890.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

1.—THE BUSINESS of the above BANK will be conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, on their premises in Hongkong. Business Hours on WEEK-DAYS, 10 to 5 SATURDAYS, 10 to 1.

2.—SUMS LESS THAN \$1, OR MORE THAN \$250 at one time will not be received. No Depositor may deposit more than \$250 in any one year.

3.—DEPOSITORS in the SAVINGS BANK, having \$100, or more, at their credit may at their option transfer the same to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION on fixed deposit for 24 months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.

4.—INTEREST at the rate of 3 1/2 per cent. annum will be allowed to Depositors on their daily balances.

5.—EACH DEPOSITOR will be supplied gratis with a PASS-BOOK, which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their PASS-BOOK, but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, about the beginning of January and beginning of July.

6.—CORRESPONDENCE as to the Business of the Bank, if marked ON HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK BUSINESS, will be forwarded free by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.

7.—WITHDRAWALS may be made on demand, but the personal attendance of the Depositor or his duly appointed Agent, and the production of his PASS-BOOK, are necessary.

FOR THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 15th May, 1890.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

I HAVE this day REMOVED to Nos. 45 and 47, Queen's Road Central.

A. DENISON, Civil Engineer, &c.

Hongkong, 28th October, 1890. [1495]

NOTICE.

DURING my absence from Hongkong Mr. J. R. MICHAEL will attend to my business.

E. H. GORE-BOOTH.

Hongkong, 28th October, 1890. [1494]

NOTICE.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LD.

I HAVE this day resumed the duties of SECRETARY of this Company.

A. SHELTON HOOPER, Secretary.

Hongkong, 27th October, 1890. [1488]

NOTICE.

MR. JOHN HUGHES LEWIS is hereby authorised to sign our Firm pro forma from 1st date.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

Hongkong, 9th October, 1890. [1412]

Insurances.

THREE IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT THE STANDARD LIFE OFFICE.

1.—HALF A MILLION STERLING per annum is being paid in Death claims year by year.

2.—THE FUNDS IN HAND amount to upwards of Seven Million pounds Sterling and have increased 50 per cent. in the last five years.

3.—THE LIVES who die are annually replaced by more than double the number of new carefully selected lives.

ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents, Hongkong.

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, OF 1877 IN HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

REUTER, BROCKELMANN & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 1st July, 1889. [56]

GENERAL LIFE AND FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY IN LONDON.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE and LIFE at Current Rates.

REUTER, BROCKELMANN & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 1st July, 1889. [57]

NOTICE.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

THE above Company is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES on GOODS &c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world payable at any of its Agencies.

WOO LIN YUEN, Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE, No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1882. [317]

GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED).

CAPITAL, TAELS 600,000. \$833,333.33

RESERVE FUND 318,000.00

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LEE SING, Esq. LO YUEN MOON, Esq.

LOU TSO SHUN, Esq.

MANAGER—HO AMEL.

MARINE RISKS ON GOODS, &c. taken at CURRENT RATES to all parts of the world.

HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST.

Hongkong, 17th December, 1884. [1250]

Commercial.

THE WEEK'S SHARE BUSINESS.

Hongkong, 25th October, 1890.

A considerable amount of general share business has been put through since our last report and most of the leading stocks are in good demand.

Banks have been the principal medium for investment during the week, and a very large number of shares have changed hands at from 227 to 229 for cash, 234 to 235 for December, and 237 to 239 for January, the market closing very strong.

In New Issues small sales have been effected at 252 and there are further buyers at 251.

Nothing of much consequence has to be reported in Marine Insurance stocks. A few transfers of China Traders at 63, Unions at 93, and Cantons at 118 comprise the week's business.

Hongkong Fires have been placed at 330, and there are now inquiries after Chinas at 89.

An extensive cash business has been done in Docks at from 75 to 77 per cent. premium, and also at 83 for the 25th of March. To-day the stock is a trifle weaker, probably in view of the monthly

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1890.

SIX DOLLARS
PER QUARTER

No. 2679.

MARRIAGE.
At Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, 22nd Oct., by Rev. H. C. Hedges, M.A., ARTHUR W. DOUTH-WATTE, M.D., to CONSTANCE H. GROVES, eldest daughter of E. K. Groves, Esq., of Bristol, England.

DEATH.
At the Shanghai General Hospital, on the 23rd of October, 1890, E. J. SMITH, of I.M. Customs Service, aged 51 years.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1890.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on Monday last. There were present: His Excellency the Governor, Mr. W. M. Brown (Acting Colonial Secretary), Mr. S. Brown (Surveyor-General), Mr. E. J. Woodhouse (Acting Colonial Treasurer), Mr. N. G. Mitchell-Innes (Acting Registrar-General), Messrs. C. P. Chater, J. J. Keswick, P. Ryrie, T. H. Whitehead, Mr. Kall (unofficial members), and Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Acting Clerk of Council.

MINUTES.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

FINANCIAL MINUTE.
A financial minute recommending the Council to vote a sum of \$400, as a gratuity to the widow of Mr. Arthur W. Douthwatt, late Assistant Marine Surveyor and Engineer of the Fire Brigade, in consideration of her husband's service, was referred to the Finance Committee.

THE PROPOSED REDUCTION OF POSTAGE.
The Acting Colonial Secretary laid on the table the report of the last meeting of the Finance Committee. The recommendation that the Despatch of the Secretary of State on the proposed reduction of postage, with the papers on the subject, be referred to the Chamber of Commerce for their observations, was agreed to by His Excellency, and the Council passed the votes recommended.

NOTICES OF MOTION.
Mr. T. H. Whitehead gave notice that at the next meeting he would move the following resolution:

"That the Government lay upon this table a complete and detailed statement showing—

1.—The total amount in dollars received by this Colony on account of the loan for 1890.

2.—The total amount of interest paid, principal and rate to be mentioned, on the loan annually from the date of borrowing until now, or on 30th June, or any more convenient date of this year.

3.—The total amount of commission paid to the Crown Agents or others in connection with the loan.

4.—The total amount of interest, commission, and all others incurred and paid in respect of the loan.

5.—The profit or loss in exchange on each of the amounts of the loan repaid annually.

6.—The rate per cent per annum the loan has cost annually—the rate in fact of interest, commission, and all others, and the rate of borrowing up to the most convenient date of this year.

7.—The amounts to be used in pounds sterling as well as in dollars, the rate of exchange at which each conversion has been made.

Mr. Whitehead also gave notice of the following motion for the next meeting:—

"That the Council postpone consideration of the Estimates for Public Works until the 11th of November next, and that the Council do not consider the subject of the Water and Drainage works."

1.—Will the Government, before proceeding with the estimates for Public Works, lay upon this table a complete statement of the proposed works, and estimates in detail, including a complete statement of the estimated cost of each item, and of the estimated revenue to be derived from each item, and of the estimated expenditure to be incurred by the Government for carrying it out promptly and effectively?

The Acting Colonial Secretary—Your Excellency, in reply to the hon. member, I have to state that the Appropriation Bill, which is proposed to read a second time to-day, deals only with the ordinary expenditure of the Colony and not with the extraordinary expenditure to which the questions of the hon. member appear to refer. It is therefore unnecessary to defer consideration of such portions of the Estimates as are dealt with in the Bill. The letter of the Sanitary Board of the 11th August will be laid on the table at the next meeting. The reports by the Hon. Mr. Chadwick laid on the table on the 30th May last contained very full information as to the water and drainage works. If the hon. member has not copies of these reports they will be supplied to him. It will not be possible to lay on the table all the details in connection with these works, but when the matter is considered either by the Finance Committee or the Public Works Committee no doubt the Surveyor-General will be able to afford the hon. member every information.

BILLS PASSED.

"The Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 1890, the Dangerous Goods Amendment Ordinance, and the Police Force Consolidation Amendment Bill, were read a third time and passed."

THE APPROPRIATION BILL, 1891.

"The Acting Colonial Secretary—I have to move the second reading of the Appropriation Bill, 1891. Your Excellency's minute on the subject of this Bill was read at the last meeting of Council; therefore all material facts in connection with it are before the Council and any further information it is desired should be given will be given when the Bill is in Committee."

"The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded."

"The Bill was read a second time."

"The Acting Colonial Secretary—I have now to move, Sir, that this Bill be referred to the Finance Committee with the Estimates."

"Mr. Chater (who had just entered)—I am sorry I was not present when the hon. member opposite put his question with regard to the Estimates. Even if I had been I do not suppose I could have spoken on the subject, as he put it in the form of a question. But now, as we are on the Estimates, I may speak, and I need hardly say that I am entirely of the opinion of the hon. member opposite (Mr. Whitehead) that we are called upon to vote large sums of money and commit the Colony to further large sums without the least information. We have a list of public works given so long that if you look at the total it is enough to frighten anybody in the Colony, but on closely examining it, as I have done, it can be easily understood why."

"His Excellency—I am sorry to interrupt you, but in answer to the question put by the hon. member a short time ago, it was stated that the Bill we are now considering does not refer to extraordinary expenditure, but simply to ordinary expenditure. The Estimates undoubtedly deal with extraordinary expenditure, but the Appropriation Bill only deals with ordinary expenditure."

"Mr. Chater—I was not present when the hon. member put his question, but I read the notice he gave, and I would have liked to have expressed myself to the effect that we should certainly require more information to enable us to pass these votes."

"His Excellency—The hon. member is quite right in saying he did not have had an opportunity of making a speech on a question. The question was put and answered and there the matter stood for the time being. But the hon. member (Mr. T. H. Whitehead) has also given notice that he will make a motion in respect to this matter and when he does so of course it will be quite open to any hon. member to make any statement he may desire, and I may say it is my wish, as it must be the wish of every one, that all matters connected with public works should be inquired into most fully."

"The question that the Bill be referred to the Finance Committee was then put and carried."

"The Council then resolved that the Bill be referred to the Finance Committee, and the Council adjourned."

"The Acting Colonial Secretary—The first matter before us is the supplementary Appropriation Bill, 1890. As you are aware, all these sums have already been voted; it is therefore a mere matter of form that the Bill be brought before you. I beg to move that it be approved."

"The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded."

"The Chairman—The next matter is the Appropriation Bill, 1891. The first item is the charges on account of the public debt, \$365,537. I beg to move that this item stand part of the Bill."

"The Colonial Treasurer seconded."

"The Chairman—The next item is Pensions, \$51,840. I may mention that there has apparently been rather a large increase as compared with last year, but it has arisen in this way. On preparing the Estimates I found no provision was made under the head of pensions for the loss the Colony has sustained from the depreciation of silver, and therefore I have provided this year, as you will see in the Estimates, a certain amount to make up the difference in the rate of exchange."

"The Acting Attorney-General—Is that the \$4,840 that is put down?"

"The Chairman—Yes."

"The Chairman—The next item is \$40,879 for the Governor and Legislature. With reference to this I have to state that the difference in regard to the salary of the Governor and certain allowances and so on is made by authority of a despatch from the Secretary of State. There is also addition in consequence of the Clerk of Council, who used formerly to have a department to himself, having been transferred to the Governor's establishment."

"The item was approved."

"The Chairman—The next item is a sum of \$39,348 for the Colonial Secretary's establishment."

"The Acting Attorney-General—With reference to this, I find the Chief Clerk gets \$3,240 and \$1,200 as Clerk of Council."

"The Chairman—Why?"

"The Acting Attorney-General—Because it is put down here, 'Holds the office of Clerk of Council.'"

"The Chairman—He appears to hold it, but it does not follow as a necessity that he always will."

"The Acting Attorney-General—That brings up the pay of the office of \$4,536, which is more than that of the Assistant Colonial Secretary."

"The Chairman—But it does not follow that the two offices are held by the same man."

"The Acting Attorney-General—They are at present."

"The Acting Colonial Treasurer—By whom?"

"The Chairman—By Mr. Seth."

"The Acting Colonial Treasurer—But at the present moment the acting appointments are distinct."

"The Chairman—Yes. In this department you will also notice a new officer, a reference clerk. He was formerly the chief clerk in the Audit Office and he has been transferred to the Colonial Secretary's Office. There is a question as to whether he should receive an increase at the rate of 50 per cent or 20 per cent, which I propose to refer to the Secretary of State. There may be observed with reference to the Passed Cadets that according to the despatch which has been laid before the Council the Passed Cadets receive \$1,800 and the cadets \$1,500, but the cadets also receive quarters. The result is that it is almost better to be a Cadet than a Passed Cadet. I think that is a small fact that has been overlooked, and it will be brought before the notice of the Secretary of State."

"The Acting Colonial Treasurer—What does a reference clerk mean?"

"The Chairman—He is the man who keeps the records of who has been on leave and all matters of that kind. He is a kind of dictionary."

"Mr. Whitehead—The increase of salaries comes in the Estimates for 1891?"

"The Chairman—Yes; wherever there is the letter 'against the salary it refers to a marginal note showing the authority for the increase."

"Mr. Whitehead—Will the Council have the opportunity of going into the increase of salaries later on?"

"The Chairman—No; now is the time."

"Mr. Ryrie—I have only had these Estimates in my possession a day or two. They were given to you a week ago."

"Mr. Ryrie—They were laid on the table, but we are not in the habit of carrying these things about ourselves, and they were only sent to me a day or two ago."

"The Chairman—Notice was given a fortnight ago and at the last meeting they were laid on the table."

member a short time ago, it was stated that the Bill we are now considering does not refer to extraordinary expenditure, but simply to ordinary expenditure. The Estimates undoubtedly deal with extraordinary expenditure, but the Appropriation Bill only deals with ordinary expenditure."

"Mr. Chater—I was not present when the hon. member put his question, but I read the notice he gave, and I would have liked to have expressed myself to the effect that we should certainly require more information to enable us to pass these votes."

"His Excellency—The hon. member is quite right in saying he did not have had an opportunity of making a speech on a question. The question was put and answered and there the matter stood for the time being. But the hon. member (Mr. T. H. Whitehead) has also given notice that he will make a motion in respect to this matter and when he does so of course it will be quite open to any hon. member to make any statement he may desire, and I may say it is my wish, as it must be the wish of every one, that all matters connected with public works should be inquired into most fully."

"The question that the Bill be referred to the Finance Committee was then put and carried."

"The Council then resolved that the Bill be referred to the Finance Committee, and the Council adjourned."

"The Acting Colonial Secretary—The first matter before us is the supplementary Appropriation Bill, 1890. As you are aware, all these sums have already been voted; it is therefore a mere matter of form that the Bill be brought before you. I beg to move that it be approved."

"The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded."

"The Chairman—The next matter is the Appropriation Bill, 1891. The first item is the charges on account of the public debt, \$365,537. I beg to move that this item stand part of the Bill."

"The Colonial Treasurer seconded."

"The Chairman—The next item is Pensions, \$51,840. I may mention that there has apparently been rather a large increase as compared with last year, but it has arisen in this way. On preparing the Estimates I found no provision was made under the head of pensions for the loss the Colony has sustained from the depreciation of silver, and therefore I have provided this year, as you will see in the Estimates, a certain amount to make up the difference in the rate of exchange."

"The Acting Attorney-General—Is that the \$4,840 that is put down?"

"The Chairman—Yes."

"The Chairman—The next item is \$40,879 for the Governor and Legislature. With reference to this I have to state that the difference in regard to the salary of the Governor and certain allowances and so on is made by authority of a despatch from the Secretary of State. There is also addition in consequence of the Clerk of Council, who used formerly to have a department to himself, having been transferred to the Governor's establishment."

"The item was approved."

"The Chairman—The next item is a sum of \$39,348 for the Colonial Secretary's establishment."

"The Acting Attorney-General—With reference to this, I find the Chief Clerk gets \$3,240 and \$1,200 as Clerk of Council."

"The Chairman—Why?"

"The Acting Attorney-General—Because it is put down here, 'Holds the office of Clerk of Council.'"

"The Chairman—He appears to hold it, but it does not follow as a necessity that he always will."

"The Acting Attorney-General—That brings up the pay of the office of \$4,536, which is more than that of the Assistant Colonial Secretary."

"The Chairman—But it does not follow that the two offices are held by the same man."

"The Acting Attorney-General—They are at present."

"The Acting Colonial Treasurer—By whom?"

"The Chairman—By Mr. Seth."

"The Acting Colonial Treasurer—But at the present moment the acting appointments are distinct."

"The Chairman—Yes. In this department you will also notice a new officer, a reference clerk. He was formerly the chief clerk in the Audit Office and he has been transferred to the Colonial Secretary's Office. There is a question as to whether he should receive an increase at the rate of 50 per cent or 20 per cent, which I propose to refer to the Secretary of State. There may be observed with reference to the Passed Cadets that according to the despatch which has been laid before the Council the Passed Cadets receive \$1,800 and the cadets \$1,500, but the cadets also receive quarters. The result is that it is almost better to be a Cadet than a Passed Cadet. I think that is a small fact that has been overlooked, and it will be brought before the notice of the Secretary of State."

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"Mr. Ryrie—I have only had these Estimates in my possession a day or two. They were given to you a week ago."

"Mr. Ryrie—They were laid on the table, but we are not in the habit of carrying these things about ourselves, and they were only sent to me a day or two ago."

"The Chairman—Notice was given a fortnight ago and at the last meeting they were laid on the table."

"Mr. Whitehead—I think a Select Committee should be appointed to consider the Estimates. I believe certain grievances exist, and I think they should be looked into by the unofficial as well as the official members."

"Mr. Keswick—It had been my intention before the Council adjourned to ask a question in reference to this matter—whether the Government would lay on the table a list of the officers who have not received an increase and, if they are not satisfied, the grounds on which they make complaint. Judging from what is stated in the public Press and from what is publicly stated by individuals it is more than probable that considerable hardship may have been done to a number of very deserving officers of this Government, and I am satisfied I only echo the feeling of the public at large when I say that any improper application of this increase of pay would be viewed with very great regret. In looking down these Estimates which we are now considering so hastily, and in which you mentioned to us we should find the increased pay of the letter 'in the margin,' if I understand you correctly."

"The Chairman—The letter is placed against the increases with reference to the Secretary of State's despatch No. 170 of the 19th June, 1890. That, therefore, is the authority for the difference between the amount put down for 1891 and for 1890. Therefore it follows as a matter of course that where the letter does not appear an increase has been given."

"Mr. Keswick—I am obliged for your explanation. Now, I believe it is notorious, in connection with the Harbour Masters' department especially, that there is very great dissatisfaction in connection with the new scale of pay, and also in other departments, and I am very anxious the Government should afford some explanation of these causes of complaint and whether the grounds on which an increase of pay is disallowed are good and sufficient."

"The Chairman—Do you put it in the form of a motion?"

"Mr. Keswick—Yes. I beg to move that the Government lay on the table a list of those officers who have not received an increase and at the same time state the new scale of pay and at the same time state the reasons if those officers are not satisfied."

"Mr. Ho Keswick—I believe injustice has been done to certain members of certain departments, and I think that it is to be regretted since the public has agreed that the pay of the Civil Service should be increased. I am sure the public will not grudge, since it has gone so far, the slight increase to be given to those who are suffering from some sort of injustice. I think a thorough investigation should be made and that every one should get a fair share. The public will be better pleased, after approving a few thousands more to make every one satisfied."

"The Chairman—To reply to the hon. member I have no authority to make any official statement, but I am quite prepared to adopt one of two courses, whichever is most convenient to them. The first is that I am perfectly prepared as we go on through the different departments to inform the hon. members in any case they desire whether or not the increase has been refused and if so the grounds of such refusal; or I am prepared to agree to the adjournment of the Committee in order that the Legislative Council may resume, and the matter can then be considered by the Council."

"The hon. member—I am perfectly prepared to give the hon. members any information about any office they may desire. I may state that, as the hon. members have observed, a great many applications have been made for increases of pay, but the writers of these applications appear not to have studied the terms of the Secretary of State's despatch. The Secretary of State's despatch, which is the basis of the whole of this matter, lays down the grounds on which any application is to be considered, and we have received numbers of applications that are expressly disallowed by that despatch. As I said before, I am acquainted with all these cases, and if we come to any particular office in this list as to which any hon. member wishes to know why the increase was disallowed, I will be very happy to give him the information. Practically the information is given by the absence of the letter 'a' against their names in the Estimates, the reasons being given in the Secretary of State's despatch. However, I am in the hands of the Committee. If they prefer to have it referred to a Committee of the whole Council I am prepared to assent to that, or if they prefer to go on in Finance Committee I am prepared to give any explanation they desire. I must also add that whatever we do now is not final; there is nothing to prevent any member of the Civil Service, who considers his pay aggrieved, sending to the Secretary of State his view of the matter, and in one or two cases we have already told members of the service that if they are dissatisfied their memorials will be attached to the despatch covering the Estimates."

"Mr. Chater—After the remarks of the senior unofficial member, who states he has not had time to go over the Estimates, I think the better course would be to adjourn their consideration to the next meeting."

"Mr. Whitehead seconded."

"The Chairman—I do not think it would be very interesting or desirable that the refusal should be printed, which is what it would come to."

"Mr. Whitehead—The grievances are not so many, as they are."

"The Chairman—No, I think they are not very many."

"Mr. Whitehead—Then it would not take so long to go into it?"

"The Chairman—No, I could do it in two minutes verbally."

"Mr. Whitehead—Would it not be better to refer it to a special committee?"

"The Chairman—I think it would be more in the interests of the officers concerned that you should admit my verbal explanation and that you should advise them whether they should refer to the Secretary of State."

"Mr. Keswick—Did I understand the hon. member (Mr. Whitehead) to second the proposal of the hon. member on my right (Mr. Chater)?"

"Mr. Whitehead—Yes."

"Mr. Ho Keswick—I rise to order. There is a motion properly proposed and seconded before the meeting."

"The Chairman—Since then there has been an amendment proposed."

"Mr. Keswick—What is the amendment?"

"The Chairman—That the house adjourn."

"Mr. Keswick—And the original proposition?"

"The Chairman—Your own."

"Mr. Keswick—I did not understand the hon. member to move it as an amendment."

"The Chairman—If so fact, a motion for adjournment is an amendment."

"Mr. Chater—Then perhaps it would be better to take a division on the motion of the hon. member on my left (Mr. Keswick) and then I will move the adjournment."

"The Acting Attorney-General—I understand the Chairman is able to give verbally the information which the applications in certain cases have been refused. I think, perhaps, it would be better to have that explanation before we go further. After we have heard that, hon. members might not consider it necessary to require anything further. Would the hon. member who made the motion be content with that for the present?"

"Mr. Keswick—I would prefer that the motion as I made it should be put to the meeting."

"The Chairman—I have to move an amendment to the motion and that is, that this Committee do now adjourn and that the Legislative Council be re-formed, so that this question may be considered in Council and not in Committee."

"The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded."

"The amendment was lost, four voting for it and five against. The Acting Registrar-General did not vote."

"The original motion was then put and carried."

"The Chairman—I now move that the Committee report to the Legislative Council."

"Mr. Chater—I beg to move that the consideration of the Estimates be adjourned to next meeting."

"The Acting Colonial Treasurer—I second the motion that we now report what has taken place."

place. After that the Council will adjourn, which will mean that the consideration of the Estimates in Finance Committee will also be adjourned."

"The motion was then put and carried."

"THE COUNCIL RESUMES."

A message was then sent to His Excellency, who returned, and the Council resumed."

"The Acting Colonial Secretary—I have to report to Your Excellency that the Finance Committee having commenced to consider the Estimates in connection with the Appropriation Bill for 1891 the hon. member on my left (Mr. Keswick) moved the following resolution:—

"Will the Government lay on the table a list of those officers who have not received an increase under the new scale of pay and at the same time state the grounds of refusal in the case of the officers who are not satisfied? That having been seconded was put to the meeting and agreed to, and the hon. member (Mr. Chater) now suggests that the further discussion of the Estimates should be adjourned for a week."

"His Excellency—I understand some decision has been come to in Finance Committee, but the Council is not supposed to know what has transpired until the report has been sent up. Therefore if the Council now resumes, if any hon. member wishes to make a motion that may affect proceedings in the Finance Committee I presume he is at liberty to do so, but I don't quite see that there is any report sent up by the Finance Committee, that is, any report on the matter that was sent to them, at present."

"Mr. Ho Keswick—I think the hon. Chairman has already reported to your Excellency the resolution that was passed."

"His Excellency—Yes, if you move the adoption of the report, but the Chairman did not report verbally the decision of the Committee. The Council is not supposed to know what has been done until the report has been sent up."

"The Acting Attorney-General—I understood the Chairman had reported."

"The Acting Colonial Secretary—I did not move the adoption of the report. I leave that to some one else."

"Mr. Keswick—I beg to move the adoption of the report."

"The Acting Colonial Treasurer—I think the report ought to be in writing."

"The Acting Attorney-General—I understood it was taken as being in writing to save time."

"His Excellency—It is rather a ridiculous sort of proceeding."

"Mr. Ryrie—I think, your Excellency, the best thing you can do is to adjourn. (Laughter.)"

"His Excellency—But if we adjourn we are doing no work."

"Mr. Ryrie—I don't like the Estimates being hurried. I have already objected to it."

"His Excellency—Neither do I, but we have other work. This is a motion I consider of very considerable importance, and I think the best plan will be for the consideration of this motion to stand over until the next meeting. The reason why I make these observations is that in regard to those officers who have not received an increase of pay there might be reasons which it might be difficult to lay before the Council, and I think myself the subject is one the Government ought very carefully to consider. On the face of it it may seem simple enough, but when you come to consider the question, that reasons perhaps of a more or less confidential nature should be laid before the Council is an admission that should not be made at a hurry. I think it would be wiser for the hon. member to make this motion at the next meeting and so give the Government time to consider whether all the correspondence, which must be more or less confidential in a case of this kind, should or should not be published."

"The Acting Colonial Secretary moved that the question be postponed to this day week."

"The Acting Attorney-General seconded."

"THE COMPANIES MEMORANDA OF ASSOCIATION BILL."

This Bill was considered in Committee and reported without amendment, and the Council adjourned until Monday next at half-past two."

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

FOOTBALL matches by lamp-light are the order of the day—or rather night—in Singapore, just now.

LIU MING-CHUAN, Governor of Formosa, has been degraded for what Chinese consider next door to high treason, his offence being that he did not manage the coal-mines properly.

THE Shanghai Chamber of Commerce have discussed at the new transit pass regulations, and will, it is expected, take action thereon, though in what form has not yet been made known.

OUR Shanghai morning contemporary of the 21st inst. says that the steamer *Peking* was still ashore in the Pelho between Taku and the Bar when the *El Dorado* left. In order to get the vessel aloft it has been found necessary to dig her out.

THE *Arratoon* *Apoor*, which sailed hence on the 23rd inst. for Calcutta, via Singapore, carried amongst her passengers for the latter port, a constable and a sergeant, Chinese, specially selected by the Chief of the local force for service in our sister colony.

THE steamer *El Dorado*, which arrived at Shanghai on the 20th inst., brought down a mob of 80 griffins from Tientsin, consigned to Mr. H. B. Baxxer. The mob is said to include a great many racing-horses, so that no difficulty should be experienced in finding the balance, 17 in number, of the Hongkong Subscription griffins.

JUDGING from the reports of steamers arriving from the South there must have been latitudes 11 and 12. The new South-Orbital steamer *Phra Nara*, Captain W. H. Watson, 10,200 tons, regularly built for the traffic between here and Singapore, reports that on the 23rd inst. she had a terrific gale with torrents of rain, during which the port-side of her after-house was stove in and the decks washed from under the port boats, the decks being continually flooded with water.

DURING a terrific gale near Swatow (in the early part of this month) a whole fleet of fishing craft was completely lost; the number of people drowned being variously estimated at from 300 to 500 people. The Chinese

opium is an unmitigated curse, which is sapping the life of the nation.—*N. C. Daily News.*

new come to Hongkong and presented his report, a copy of which you receive, Mr. Becher is now managing the 'Penjom Pahang' and this Company's properties jointly—an arrangement by which they will have the continued benefit of his services with an advantageous division of his remuneration. I am strongly of opinion—and Mr. Becher's remarks have only strengthened that opinion—that he isn't the man for our money in the Straits Settlements (Applause). I consider that he is grossly mismanaged our affairs in London; I consider that he is still more grossly mismanaged and misrepresents the state of affairs at the mines, and I think the time has arrived when he should be removed from the office of Managing Director and that the Company must part (Applause).

Mr. Legge—I have no objection to the paragraph being omitted (laughter and applause). Mr. Jones seconded the amendment, which was then put. A considerable number voted for it, but some confusion arising as to what was before the meeting.

Mr. Gore-Booth proposed that a poll be taken. Mr. Jones seconded, and after about a quarter of an hour the poll was taken.

The Chairman announced that 170 votes had been given for, and 230 against it.

Mr. Fraser-Smith asked how many directors' votes were included in the latter number?

The Chairman—I don't know that you can ask it.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—Oh! Yes, it's an open poll. The Chairman informed that 57 votes had been given by directors.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—Ah! That would just make the difference.

The Chairman then submitted the motion, which was unanimously agreed to, most of those present leaving as soon as it was put.

Mr. Jones murmured that after the explanation to freely given by the Chairman the meeting could only express their confidence in the directors. There might have been outbursts of feeling, but the general belief was that there might be brighter prospects in future.

Mr. Gore-Booth, in a "mild" speech, endorsed the remarks; he was quite certain that Mr. Fraser-Smith and Mr. Legge had no intention of speaking with any malice, and possibly the Board had put an incorrect interpretation on what was said.

He hoped the directors would reconsider their idea of resignation, for it was well-known how hard they had worked in the past (Hear, hear).

Mr. Wilcox questioned very much if the Board could resign in a body. But even if they could he thought the meeting would refuse to accept their resignation (Hear, hear).

The Chairman—You are aware that for my own part I am going away. I have stuck to my post at very considerable and very serious inconvenience. I have not received any remuneration for months past, in spite of the arrangement that was made. I need scarcely say, I cannot but be, the same for the other directors—they have been most ungenerous in the way they have treated me. I do not know how much or how little it was meant, but when we find such strong expressions made use of I felt a little disappointed, and the only thing to do is to resign. Of course if that would be illegal, we do not wish to do it. In the meantime I may remind you that my seat has to be filled, and it is therefore necessary to elect some one in its stead. I think after a little consideration you will be able to make up your mind as to who it shall be.

Mr. R. B. Allen proposed that Mr. J. Orange, C.E., be elected to fill the vacancy on the Board.

Mr. Chairman—He is an engineer, and would no doubt prove a very useful man.

Mr. Wilcox seconded, and the motion was carried.

Mr. S. A. Joseph proposed that the retiring directors, Messrs. W. Wotton and D. Gillies, be re-elected.

Mr. Judah seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. Gillies—Gentlemen, we have met you here this afternoon to discuss the report of the Penjom Company. I have no doubt every one at present has very great interest in it, at all events, if not each holder of shares, everyone who held sufficient to have an interest in it and to wish for its prosperity. I think a good deal of adverse criticism has been passed on the directors for their management or rather their mismanagement of the Company, as it has been expressed by some shareholders present. I assure you that the directors have taken a very great interest in the Company and I do not know of a single Company in Hongkong where the directors have sat so often or so long as they have done in the interests of the Penjom Company (Applause).

We are not expert miners, or mining experts, but I can assure you we have all tried to learn as much as we could in connection with mines in order that we might further your interests, and those interests, I assure you, have met with our most careful consideration. There is not a single Company in Hongkong where the Board have sat so often or so long as this one (Applause). We have never hesitated to come to the many meetings that have been called. We may have erred, and if we did we had at least a proper object in view, and that was your interests. (Hear, hear). We should be very glad indeed when shareholders come to a meeting and hear the report read if they not only criticised us, but directed us as much as they could. We are always open to receive opinions, and I assure you if you can put us right in connection with the work of the Penjom Company, in order that we may arrive at success, we shall be only too glad to follow it. I do not despair of Penjom yet and I hope the time may come when it will be considered, as it has already been expressed, a good working and profitable mine. I need hardly say how very near we were to success a short time ago. If this property had been placed on the London market at an earlier period we should have floated successfully. The shares would have been taken up and we should have had our £100,000 in our pockets, and instead of despairing and crying out so much you would have said, "Well, Penjom was a very good thing after all." I do not think I need say much more, but I can assure you the Directors have hidden nothing from you. If a shareholder wishes to know anything the Secretary is always ready to show him correspondence and everything he can so that no shareholder can be placed in any wrong position than the directors. We desire to do everything we can for the Company, and we know that if our actions do not meet with your approval the only alternative is to resign, as has been already intimated by our Chairman. (Applause).

Mr. Jorey proposed that Messrs. F. Henderson and R. Lyall be elected auditors.

Mr. S. Jomson seconded.

The motion was carried, and the proceedings terminated.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by correspondents in this column.)

MR. BECHER AND THE PENJOM COMPANY.

To THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

Kindly insert the following letter, which I forwarded to Mr. Gourdin this morning—

Hongkong, 28th October, 1890.

A. O'D. GOURDIN, Esq., Secretary.

The Penjom & Sungle Doo Samantang Co., Ltd.

DEAR SIR—I have to point out for the information of the Board of Directors that the poll

counted at yesterday's meeting in reference to my amendment on the proposal for the adoption of the Directors' Report and statement of accounts after said amendment had, on a show of hands, been carried by an overwhelming majority, was illegal and not in conformity with the Company's Articles of Association, and is therefore null and void, leaving my amendment duly carried.

When the poll was demanded by Mr. Gore-Booth I asked the Chairman if it were not provided for by the Articles of Association, and Mr. Brodie, after consultation, replied that it was so provided and that the poll was in order. I nevertheless had serious doubts on the matter and find that they were only too well founded.

I beg to call the attention of the Directors to sub-sections 14, 15 and 16 of section 13 of the Company's Articles (page 17) and especially to section 15, which clearly lays it down that "a poll must be demanded immediately after the declaration of the result of a show of hands, in writing, by at least two shareholders present and entitled to vote at such meeting."

No such demand was made in writing—in fact an illegal proposition was made before any lawful declaration of the vote, that had just been taken, had been announced to the meeting—and as this is the essence of the rule the proceedings that took place cannot be upheld.

I further direct attention to sub-section 16 referring to proxies, which was not complied with in counting the poll. I claim therefore the amendment was carried and the report was adopted with the omission of the paragraph referring to Mr. Becher who, I contend, is no longer in the service of the company.

Please circulate this letter without delay amongst the directors and also kindly furnish me with a copy of the Share Register used at yesterday's meeting.

I am, Dear Sir, Yours faithfully,

(Signed) R. FRASER-SMITH.

The following is the report—

The Directors have now the pleasure to lay before you the accounts for the half year ending 31st March, 1890, from which it will be seen that expenditure on working account was \$25,815.70 at Penjom, and \$3,348.45 at Sungle Doo.

These figures represent the cost of exploratory and mining work done during that period, chiefly on the 80 square miles remaining to be worked at Penjom, a comprehensive review of which is given in our Manager's report handed to you herewith.

It will be understood that a double motive was in view in carrying out this most important work, inevitably involving considerable expense—firstly, to extend over the greater area of our Concessions the knowledge of their mineral resources, which had hitherto been almost entirely confined to the mines included in the 20-mile block lately disposed of—and secondly, to retain our claims over the entire area by placing ourselves in a proper position to demand from the Pahang Government the longest possible extension of the prospecting period of our lease, which was about to lapse, and on the premature expiry of which we should have had to relinquish all unselected ground.

In both directions the object has been successfully accomplished, and whilst we now have a good knowledge of various parts of both Concessions, which were lately blanks on our maps, the Directors have the great satisfaction of having obtained for you the assurance that your exclusive title thereto will remain undisturbed for another period of 5 years on the payment of a moderate yearly tax.

Although such prospecting work is naturally unremunerative in itself, reasonable expenditure in this direction must always be regarded as money well spent in the improvement of such properties as these, and though we have so far been unfortunate in the intrinsic value of results obtained, there is reason to hope that we may strike richer ground any day on the many discoveries in course of further examination.

During the five years in view, it may reasonably be expected that Pahang will receive the further attention which the exploitation of its mineral wealth deserves, and, on the revival of the interest which has flagged during a period of general depression, should such be stimulated by the assurance of success at Penjom itself or in the neighbouring mines, it will be seen that these great fields for mining enterprise possess an intrinsic value which may not at present be recognised.

It is proposed by your Directors not to initiate any fresh mining operations on an extensive scale but to continue the work of prospecting in the strict sense of this term, as suggested by Mr. Becher in his report. With this view our staff at the mines has been reduced to a minimum, some having transferred their services to the Penjom Pahang Gold Company, and from estimates which have been prepared we can see our way to carry out the proposed programme at an expenditure of about \$3,000 per month, which we shall be able to meet for nine months without default of repayment of disbursements by the new Company.

In the statement of accounts the expenses of our own operations and of the establishment at Penjom (Jala) Mines have been so divided as to show an outlay for account of the latter of \$17,301.72. To this has to be added, though not yet entered in accounts, a sum of about \$18,000—the value of machinery and plant being taken over, and in reimbursement of these amounts it was agreed by the London Company that we should receive £5,000. We regret to say that as yet the claim has not yet been paid by reason of financial depression in the Pahang market, on which our outflow is dependent for resources in London, but we are promised an early settlement and your Directors will continue to use every effort to obtain it.

The preponderating interests of this Company will shortly be represented or the Board in London by the arrival there in December of Mr. W. G. Brodie, (Chairman) to assist Mr. Ewart, their other representative, and that Board will be further strengthened by the simultaneous return to England of Mr. J. Atkinson Bell, a most able manager who has been spending some months in Pahang.

Meanwhile it is satisfactory to know that funds have been sent to the mines for current requirements on the Jala Block, where the work is now being carried on at the expense of the new Company, and there is every reason to hope that such will now be continued with renewed energy. Necessary additions to the pumps, to deal with the recent increase of water, have been ordered by Mr. Becher, and before long the lower levels will be again accessible from which it is expected that the richer veins of ore lately discovered will soon produce material for some returns of gold.

Our operations at Sungle Doo beyond these of exploration not having shown profitable results in the shape of out-put of tin-ore from the deposits so far opened up, the current outlay has been reduced in that direction, and it is proposed for the future to confine the work here, as at Penjom, to prospecting only, at the estimated cost of not more than \$5,000 per month.

Mr. H. M. Becher returned from London to Singapore in the middle of July, and has since been to the mines, of which he has made a full inspection. He remained several weeks at Penjom, making the necessary arrangements in alteration of the staff and programme of operations contingent on the transfer of the Jala

Block, after which he visited Sungle Doo and inspected all the workings at that Concession. He has now come to Hongkong and presented his report, a copy of which you receive. Mr. Becher is now managing the "Penjom Pahang" and this Company's properties jointly—an arrangement by which they will have the continued benefit of his services with an advantageous division of his remuneration.

Mr. W. G. Brodie having resigned his seat at the Board in consequence of his departure from the colony, it becomes necessary to elect some one in his stead.

Under Articles 15 of the Articles of Association, Mr. Wm. Wotton and Mr. David Gillies retire from the Board, but offer themselves for re-election.

The annexed accounts have been audited by Messrs. F. Henderson and R. Lyall, who are eligible for re-election.

WM. G. BRODIE, Chairman.

Hongkong, 21st October, 1890.

1ST OCTOBER, 1889, TO 31ST MARCH, 1890.

Assets.

To Cost of Estate \$150,000.00

Machinery and Plant, Construction, Buildings at Penjom and Samantan 54,968.59

Steam-launch Mauds 1,000.00

Flour 2,500.00

Sin Yum 9,690.00

Lighters 1,793.07

Saw Mill Plant 173.76

Water Wheel 2,195.93

Instruments and Tools at Penjom and Samantan 2,681.97

Stores Cash, Sungle Doo 8,556.93

Furniture at Office 580.88

at Mines & Sungle Doo 3,049.60

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Fixed Deposit 90,000.00

Cash at Penjom Agency 1,186.00

Malay Pahang Concession Company 110.00

Sundry Debtors 3,544.34

Suspense 2,169.10

Accounts Receivable 2,969.27

Gold on hand produced by 346.50

Tribute Mines 1,143.86

Cash at Mines 106.77

Petty Cash 400.00

James Morrison & Co., London 1,400.00

Opium at Mines 600.50

Plank cutting 260.17

Penjom Pahang Gold Company, (Limited) 17,801.27

Bullion Stock Account 21.88

Live Stock 16.95

Balance 267,241.61

\$627,734.60

Liabilities.

By Capital \$599,730.00

Syme & Co. 1,752.39

Malay Peninsula Prospecting Co. 353.40

Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, Account No. 2 25,748.81

Accounts Payable 150.00

\$627,734.60

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dr.

To Balance from last Account \$228,783.65

Mining Exploration \$8,055.57

Prospecting 5,200.59

Salaries and Wages, Europeans and Native Overseers 6,918.04

Roads and Bridges 729.37

Assaying Expenses 471.95

Stamp Mill Working 216.87

Dam and Water Supply 173.21

Transport, Machinery & Stores 63.35

Saw Mill Working 179.16

Penjom Office Expenses 1,495.52

Police 381.40

Hotel and Hospital Expenses 226.07

Allowances 297.29

General Expenses 1,176.92

Advances Written off 245.03

Postal Service 37.50

Pyrites Shipment 10.00

Depreciation on Old Stores written off 932.04

Auditors' Fees 150.00

Disbursements at Sungle Doo 3,348.45

Balance Expenses over receipts Steam-launch Sin Yum 2,006.85

Expenses launch Mauds 102.32

Surveying Expenses 2,274.39

Travelling Expenses 1,594.00

Head Office Rent and Expenses 5,112.03

Stationery 200.89

Legal Expenses 1,001.00

Commission 804.52

Exchange 797.00

Insurance 60.30

\$274,051.20

Cr.

By Profit on Stores Sold 729.70

Profit on Opium Sold 2,164.70

Proceeds Sale Tin 980.70

Gold Licence 92.00

Interest 2,512.49

Transfer Fees 67.00

Godown Rent 270.00

Balance 267,241.61

\$274,051.20

E. S. O. E.

Hongkong, 21st October, 1890.

A. O'D. GOURDIN, Secretary.

We have compared the above Statement with the Books, Vouchers, and Securities of the Company, and certify the same to be correct.

F. HENDERSON, Auditors.

R. LYALL, Auditors.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Hongkong Football Club was held on the 24th inst., in the Gymnasium of the Victoria Recreation Club. Amongst those present were—Messrs. A. Ough, F. C. Atkinson, Messrs. A. Ough, F. C. Atkinson, E. M. Blair, A. Grant, F. C. Dundas, E. A. Ram, F. L. Jackson, S. S. Clarke, G. G. Boyle, S. Boyle, and Capt. Macdonough, R.E. (Hon. Secretary).

The chair was taken by Dr. Atkinson, in the absence of the president the Hon. A. P. McEwen, who has left the colony.

The Chairman stated that owing to unavoidable circumstances, which would be understood by the meeting, it had been found impossible to issue the annual statement of Accounts.

The meeting then proceeded to elect a new president and committee. On the motion of Mr. Blair, seconded by Mr. Ram, Major Barker, R.E., was unanimously elected President. It was proposed by Mr. F. C. Mailland, and seconded by Mr. Clarke that Mr. Skitt be elected Treasurer, which was carried unanimously. The Secretary having tendered his resignation, as he was uncertain if he would remain in the colony during the whole of the

coming season, Mr. Wallace was elected Secretary on the motion of Mr. Ram seconded by Mr. Blair. Capt. Macdonough, R.E., consented to act as Secretary during the temporary absence of Mr. Wallace from the colony. Capt. Macdonough and Lieut. Grant were elected members of the Committee in place of Mr. Wallace and Mr. Hayler, the latter having left the colony. Dr. Atkinson, Mr. Ram and Mr. Blair were re-elected to serve on the Committee.

The Chairman made a few remarks on the results of the last season, and requested members to be a little more punctual in coming down to play, great inconvenience having resulted last season from want of punctuality by members of the teams.

It was decided that the opening match, 1st Eleven of the Club v. All Comers, should be played on Monday, the 3rd November.

The Chairman stated that the Hockey Club had kindly permitted the members of the Club to use the Grand Stand for dressing in.

On the motion of Dr. Atkinson a cordial vote of thanks was given to the Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed.

Several new members having been elected, the meeting adjourned.

SUPREME COURT.

IN CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

(Before Sir James Russell, Chief Justice.)

October 27th.

The October Sessions, formally opened on the 18th inst., were resumed to-day. Mr. E. J. Ackroyd, Acting Attorney General, prosecuted.

ANTHONY PAULY, ORDINANCE.

Wong Atak, found guilty by the jury last Monday of entering a house in Gilman's Bazaar with intent to commit a felony, was brought before the Court for sentence.

His lordship, in delivering judgment, said that it had transpired in evidence that the prisoner had stolen nothing; the house in question was abandoned and almost empty, the tenants having left owing to a fire having broken out next door. The case, taking it all in its bearings, seemed peculiar. It was strange that a police officer should, as alleged, conceal himself in the cock-loft of an abandoned house and there wait until a thief came. Under the Ordinance the prisoner could not be considered to have stolen in the sense of the word "stealing" was used in the Ordinance, and it consequently did not meet this case, which was an extraordinary one. The man had been already six weeks in goal, and that would certainly be sufficient punishment, in itself, to meet the case. He would therefore discharge him.

The prisoner, who promptly opened fire, with choice epithets, on the police, the Bench, the Press, and every one within ear-shot, was then allowed to go home.

CRICKET.

THE GARRISON V. HONGKONG C. C.

This interesting match, commenced on Friday last, terminated on Saturday in the usual unsatisfactory draw. We append the scores—

THE GARRISON.

FIRST INNINGS.

1. Blair, R.E., 45

2. Blair, R.E., 45

3. Blair, R.E., 45

4. Blair, R.E., 45

5. Blair, R.E., 45

6. Blair, R.E., 45

7. Blair, R.E., 45

8. Blair, R.E., 45

9. Blair, R.E., 45

10. Blair, R.E., 45

11. Blair, R.E., 45

12. Blair, R.E., 45

13. Blair, R.E., 45

14. Blair, R.E., 45

15. Blair, R.E